

New York Trout Season Open; Begins April 15 in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts

NEW YORK TROUT SEASON NOW OPEN

Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Vermont Anglers' First Day on April 15.

FLIES THAT LURE FISH

By DIXIE CARROLL.
Trout fishing began throughout New York State yesterday and the season opens a week from Tuesday in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Vermont. All fish to be retained must be six inches or over. The catch limit in the last three mentioned States is: Pennsylvania, five; Massachusetts, 25 fish; New Hampshire, 5 pounds.

Way back in the early days, old time, even way back before Hecy was a pup, in fact, I think it must have been about the same age, one of our ancestors probably was looking along a striding stream, or just looking away the time, of which he had plenty to spare and nothing else besides his stone ax, waiting for a nice old granddaddy bass to come along so that he could either spear it or wait it over the head with his ax, when he noticed a feather floating down through the air from a wood duck as it looked its way south to a winter home.

The feather wafted through the air and dropped on the water, the wind blowing it lightly with the current. When, with a walloping drive, a nervous wreck in the shape of a man's size rainbow trout struck the feather like a Kansas cyclone and shot back to the bottom.

Every Angler Has Pet Fly.

Now, once or twice, our neolithic forebear had tasted a well scorched trout, which he had grilled with a forked stick over a fire, but the wily trout was a bit too cautious to fall a victim of his slugging tactics in the fishing game.

Mulling the feather idea over in his small amount of gray matter, he hoped up the prehistoric fly, probably by turning a couple of feathers on a sharpened bone for a hook.

And after his first trout at taming the feathers to the game fins he spent the remainder of his days tying new designs in flies for himself and the rest of the anglers of his time.

This is no doubt the reason we have so many patterns in flies at the present time, something over 1,000 different flies to coax the husky tail kickers out of their watery retreats. And about every now and then some fellow tries another style, the mimesis man crosses to take a chance at moulting.

Of course, there are quite a few standard patterns that have made a "rep" for getting the fish that are hard to beat, yet nearly every angler who fishes with some particular pattern and the one best bet, and this fly holds the pet position in his fly book, while his fishing pal may fish the same streams, and have as his killer a fly of an entirely different style and color.

Cochman Life Saver to Many.

This brings us to the argument between the ultrapurist in the fly fishing game, who claims that the more the more must imitate as closely as possible the natural insects that are on the wing along the stream at the time of fishing. He does not mind making a fly that is a standard tied feather fly, or a fly that is a few of the flying insects and comparing their Bertillon measurements with the layout in his fly book.

Of course there is a lot of good common sense in this, and the more the more as possible in the making of flies, but the fly that has been successfully used to a greater extent than any other pattern does not imitate a fly, but a fly that is found along the stream, and this little old wonder is the Cochman.

This green bodied, white winged, red whiskered old fellow has been used more fish than all the "close to nature" styles, and nearly every fly fisherman has a few tucked away in his fly book, because he does not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

Royal Cochman Inventor.

The Cochman has been a life saver to many a fellow in the stream, and for this fly of varied hue we have to thank the imagination of old Tom Bosworth, royal coachman of the English rulers, King George IV, King William IV, and Queen Victoria.

Tom sure tied a winner when he hooked up the Cochman, and when he had the first one finished he likely tied himself off by his lonesome and gave it a trout before he passed it around among his cronies of the rod and reel.

EXCITING TO CATCH TARPON WITH PLUG

T. N. Burket Tells of Thrills With Light Tackle in Crystal River, Fla.

MOONLIGHT ANGLING FUN

By FRED A. BISHOP.
In THE SUN last spring I told of T. N. Burket of Lincoln, Neb., taking a 112 pound tarpon in Florida waters while casting with a 1703 Heddon minnow, a bamboo rod usually used for kingfish and a fifteen thread linen line.

I made the prediction that the time was not far distant when tarpon would be taken while casting with a five foot bamboo rod, silk casting line and a plug. I stated then that some who cast flies or fish with live or cut bait or troll from boats so far as to claim that no true sportsman would use a plug, but I was of the opinion that as fly casting is an art, so is plug casting, except that plug casting is in its infancy though gaining in recruits daily.

I will venture a guess that it will not be many years before the outfit of the majority of anglers who fish in Florida waters will contain floating plugs and many who now fish with live or cut bait or troll will push aside rods, hooks, lines and sinkers, used in that kind of fishing, for after you get out of the habit of losing plugs and acquire the knack of fishing and landing large fish with light tackle you will take a seat on the plugger's wagon which you would not give up even to your best girl.

I met Mr. Burket six years ago when I made my first visit to Crystal River. He had been going to Florida for many years and had the best reputation of being one of the best anglers that ever lived in the State. At many a silver king had been brought to the dock by way of his boat I naturally sought his advice as to proper line, rod, reel, etc., for while I had taken many large fish from the river I never had caught a tarpon or saw any else do so.

Imagine my disappointment to learn from his lips that my 10 foot bamboo tip weighing 5 1/2 ounces, 18 thread line and 3-0 Vof reel were out of the question in river fishing because of the narrowness of the stream, rocks, etc.

Angling Like Music.
In those days Mr. Burket's rig consisted of a 4-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

Tarpon on Plug Made Ten Jumps.
"It's hard to convince some of the old type of tarpon fishermen that tarpon can be caught by casting a plug, but one of my friends at this place rather thought it was only an accident that I landed the 112 1/2 pound fish last March. In order to prove it was not a land another one, here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"In place of the regulation 5 1/2 ounce, five piece, five foot bamboo rod, such as a rainbow streamer, I used a 10 foot, five piece, five foot, one piece, bamboo rod which weighs a fraction over ten ounces. The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

"The reel is a 3-0 Vof reel, with drag set at 10 pounds, and a 10 foot bamboo rod and heavy iron wood tip, but, as I have stated on many occasions, angling is like music. Some people remain in the ragtime strain of their lives, while others take to grand opera. If there is any such thing as grand opera in fishing the taking of large fish on a casting outfit in order to prove it was not a land another one. Here is a picture of a ninety pounder that I caught on January 13 at the Rocks. It was the first time I did any casting in this season, and must say it was a lively fish that struck, and during the fight, which perhaps lasted over half an hour, he did not make after the "rep" for getting the fish, and regardless of his pet in the nature line he has it for emergency use in order that he can give it a whirl if all others fail.

Dustin Farnum and 322-Lb. Spikefish.



THIS CATALINA ISLAND "MARLIN SWORDFISH" FOUGHT THE ACTOR AND CAPTAIN NEWBERRY FOR FOUR HOURS AND THIRTY MINUTES AND TOWED THE LAUNCH SEVEN MILES.

STRENGTH FOUND IN STATE ASSOCIATION

An Organization of True Sportsmen Can Make Fish and Game Abundant.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 5.—"Every man who fishes, hunts, traps or shoots at the traps should be vitally interested in the work of his State sportsmen's association," says Peter P. Carleton, editor of the National Sportsman's Syndicate.

"Every man who loves life and enjoys recreation out of doors should affiliate with the State organization," he says. "The sportsman's association is a body of true sportsmen can do more to prevent illegal fishing and hunting than is commonly believed. Real sportsmen, the kind that make up the association membership, will not violate laws, nor will they permit others to do so."

"Working together through a State association these things can be accomplished: "Game can be restored." "Fish can be brought back in abundance."

"Stream pollution can be abated." "Forest fires can be checked." "Clean sportsmanship can be made popular."

"Good legislation can be enacted." "The game hog can be checked." "Sportsmanship can be brought into high repute."

"One of the most progressive of our State Sportsmen's Associations is the Michigan organization. The object of this association is worth study. Here it is:

"To bring together into the bonds of fellowship all that great body of true sportsmen and lovers of the great outdoors in the State of Michigan, to create a central body through which the sportsman may work unitedly for the conservation and propagation of game and fish, but not to the exclusion of hunting and fishing, to increase the number of true sportsmen in the State through education and unite them for the advancement of true sport; to lend aid and encouragement to the enforcement of protective laws and to be in position to speak as a sportsman's body upon all proposed legislative enactments affecting the interests of sportsmen."

St. Louis, Mo., April 5.—The General Assembly has suggested to the Attorney General of Missouri that he investigate the matter of enjoining the Federal game inspectors in the employ of the Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., and that they be prevented "from further interfering with or molesting any or all of our citizens in the exercise of their privileges, legally acquired, and as is evidenced by their hunting licenses duly issued, and of record, and that he take such action as the facts and laws warrant."

A College of Fisheries.
SEATTLE, Wash., April 5.—The University of Washington has established a College of Fisheries and has thus become the pioneer in this important educational field. The director of the new college is John N. Cobb, who was for several years in the service of the United States Bureau of Fisheries.

Buffalo Bill's Bison Record.
Buffalo Bill won his name by contracting to supply the railroad builders of the Kansas Pacific with bison meat. In one year he killed 4,250 bison, and from first to last it is estimated that more than 40,000 fell before his rifle.

WILDEST TRAPPED CHICKEN STEALING

NASHUA, N. H., April 5.—Irving W. Rollins lost some chickens and set a trap for the fox he thought responsible. Instead he found in the trap a forty-pound wildcat.

WATER FOR LOCAL ANGLERS FROM APRIL 6 TO APRIL 13

Date	Sandy Hook	Princess	Jamaica Bay	Canal	Governors	Willetts	New London
April 6	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 7	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 8	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 9	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 10	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 11	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 12	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00
April 13	1.46	1.19	1.24	2.04	1.47	4.02	5.00

DEER DECREASING; DRAIN DISASTROUS

Only Ray of Hope Is Effective Enforcement of Game Laws on Biological Basis.

BUCK LAW ESSENTIAL

By WARWICK S. CARPENTER.
Secretary Conservation Commission.
The whitetail deer is the last big game animal remaining in New York State in large numbers, and the only game animal that we have any reasonable expectation of being able to maintain in comparative abundance for this and succeeding generations.

From the first settlement of the State the rapidly increasing population has encroached relentlessly upon the haunts of wild life, until once familiar species have disappeared entirely. Many have been driven back into the fastnesses of such wilderness as still remains.

Signs of the disappearance were very early made known. As long ago as 1769 the Governor and Council of the Province of New York placed a close season on deer in the county of Suffolk, and in 1774 an act was passed making the entire State a deer preserve, and it was made illegal to hunt deer anywhere in the State.

It is common knowledge that more than two hundred years of legislation regarding deer in New York State have been ineffective in stopping the back-sliding of the deer population. For nearly all of that time the laws were unenforced, and dead letter laws are just as good as none.

Except for the deer in the Catskills and a few that may be maintained in some of the semi-agricultural sections of the State, the deer of New York have found their last stand in the Adirondacks.

One Ray of Hope for Deer.
But it is a stand that is already becoming eroded with a network of State roads that make even the remotest recesses accessible to hunters from a surrounding population of more than ten million people. If the experience of the last 200 years is a safe criterion, we can draw but one conclusion. The whitetail must disappear.

There is but one ray of hope. It is found in the strict enforcement of game laws that have a sound biological basis.

The farmer or stockman who administers his herds of sheep and cattle in accordance with correct biological principles is able to take a large annual toll from them, and at the same time maintain the herds undiminished, or even increase them.

The owners of large enclosed deer preserves, where the deer are living under entirely natural conditions, have found that they must apply the same scientific principles that the farmer employs with sheep and cattle.

The problem of maintaining New York's herd of whitetail deer at the maximum possible level of numbers is in its nature precisely the same sort of problem that every scientific farmer, stockman and deer park owner faces in endeavoring to maintain and build up his herds.

The importance of complete scientific information regarding live stock, as a basis for proper management of the herds, is thoroughly self-evident. A sound need for dependable information exists in the case of wild deer.

Even though deer are wild animals, they are nevertheless creatures of habit, and their habits, if specially studied, can be used. The mere fact that they cannot all be driven into a corral or pen, and that they are not sheep or cattle, does not mean that we must abandon all attempt to get specific information about them.

How Deer May Be Increased.
Realizing that definite information is needed for the proper conduct of New York's deer herd, the Conservation Commission has conducted an investigation regarding deer habits from 1908 to 1913, which has resulted in the collection of a mass of data based upon actual observation and known facts.

The deer in proportion to the total deer population makes it advisable to amend the deer law by providing that only one buck may be shot by a single hunter, and if the rigorous enforcement of this law is continued as it has been during the last two years, the deer should actually increase in numbers.

Back Law Preserves Animal.
Out of thirty-five States and territories in which deer hunting is permitted, sixteen have adopted the buck law as the only effective means of increasing the deer population. A number of the remaining nineteen States, strong movements are now under way for the passage of such a law.

Colorado, where hunting is very intense, have even gone a step further than any others, and have prohibited the shooting of spike horned bucks.

Shark Voted Delicious.
Key West, Fla., April 5.—Miss Evelyn Spence, a daughter of the late Mr. Spence, of the famous Spence family, has voted that shark is a most delicious fish.

SPORT GIVES JOY TO ALL THE SENSES

Pleasures of Going Afield Without the Single Purpose of Destruction.

DELIGHTS OF OUTDOORS

By ROBERT H. DAVIS.
All the good fishing in the world is not had with a hook, nor all the good hunting with a gun. Let us not in the swift procession of activities that come to us in the great outdoors, forget that there are other moments than the fish coming to the reel, the bird crumpling in the air, or the beast jumping the sky-line with his last plunge before slipping into eternity.

There is an hour in the morning when the dew, emerging from its sudden slumber of the night-time, rises from the grass, glides from the leaves and goes dancing into thin mist before the golden sun. Subtle perfume steals through the branches of the forest, cooled by the aethers of the forest, the mingling aromas of pine and maple and dogwood, the smell of wild flowers, the soft scent of summer rain, falling into the lap of spring; inhale deeply.

The day grows apace, the warmth distills the essence of the woodland, the pungent dew flows across the landscape, redolent with the exhalations of summer. Here are opportunities to become drunk with the frankness of nature, on the ambrosial couch of the world, lulled by the softness of summer rain, wafted from remote valleys, vague, intangible, maddening, like the breath of fairy invisibles; embalm the eyes and ears, and have your sleep by day out of doors? Let us proceed to dreamland.

Harmony of the Outdoors.
Close not your ears to the harmony of God's music, the orchestration of the thrush, the high bell-like crescendo of the cock of the wood, the rattapan of the yellow-hammer, the life of the mountain quail, the flute, melodious, melting, the bell of the red-wing, the main of the bell bird, the drumming of grouse and the piping of the partridge.

What is that strange and mysterious murmuring that fills like rumour through the forest? Is it the sound of the trees growing, the bursting of buds, the dropping of the leaves, or is it the breath of Heaven? Attune your ears to this mystery of sound, blend it with the rhythm of your dreaming, you who are dute to dust, earth to earth. Perhaps it is the voice of the world sleeping from the very ground through the atoms of your personality, or may be a threat to passing time lamenting your inaction.

Be not averse to composure. Sleep on. When the high sun has fed the quadrant, and the evening star, silently and then yawn and stretch your limbs, and wrestle with the grass beneath you.

Open your eyes. See that soft, Nile green of half-leaved aspens, the sage tones, the browns, the purples in hazy vistas, the sinister blues of ancient woodcock, like shaft of light out of the nothing, passing into nowhere. Shadows filtered through leafy panoplies, people the plain with a wind through the timber. Look upward and onward into the blue firmament against which drift white battalions of restless eagles, and across which lonely eagles soar.

Pause at a break, acquiesce in the invitation. Lie down upon the moss that softens its rocky conformation; quaff a generous libation, wishing it luck upon its journey through canyon and through valley, onward to its inevitable sea. Leave your brow in its cool stream. Pronounce a benediction to distant snow-capped peaks, where streams are born; then pass along with the wild herds from rocky hillside. Lay the bruised leaf of the checkerberry upon your hand, rifle the horde of wild honey, tread in blood against a hard winter's invitation. Lie down upon the moss that softens its rocky conformation; quaff a generous libation, wishing it luck upon its journey through canyon and through valley, onward to its inevitable sea. Leave your brow in its cool stream. Pronounce a benediction to distant snow-capped peaks, where streams are born; then pass along with the wild herds from rocky hillside. Lay the bruised leaf of the checkerberry upon your hand, rifle the horde of wild honey, tread in blood against a hard winter's invitation.

There is beauty in the world to be had for the asking; happiness on every hand; joy for the taking; endless and inexhaustible charm for those who exercise their senses.

The Full Creel and Full Heart.
The full creel cannot be compared with the full heart of one who sees the play of sunlight upon clear water.

The weight of furred and feathered things in the bag of the hunter is as nothing compared to the weight of a day's nose upon his master's hand. I adjure you, fellow sportsmen, not to go afield with the single purpose of destruction.

The bird brooding against an honest appetite is a worthy thing for the consideration of a hungry man.

The crack of a 30-30, the whistle of a dog's nose upon his master's hand, the smell of a wood fire or the arid tang of mixed tobacco, to be avoided.

South Dakota State League.
SIOUX FALLS, S. D., April 5.—Local sportsmen here are planning to form a statewide league to better fishing and hunting conditions in this State.

ATKINSON DAY AND EVENING CLASSES
235 West 57th St.
AUTO SCHOOL

AUTOMOBILE EXCHANGE.
Authorized Exchange Dealers for NEW & USED BUCKS
Glidden Motor and Supply Co., 239 West 58th St., One door East of Broadway.

8 A. M. DAILY JOSEPHINE

Problem in Bridge Stirs Up Interest

By R. F. FOSTER.
Several letters have come to hand pointing out that in the hand published March 16 Y would have made three odd if he had not made two hearts.

At the other table at which Y said nothing about the hearts, he led them once only. As his partner was using the Foster schlem, he had only one heart higher than the second so he refused to finesse the clubs, but played ace and queen, and also refused to put the high diamond on the second round, so as to get the club discard from Y, hand on the third diamond. That is pretty near double dummy, but it will not win the game.

THE NO-TRUMP DOUBLE.
This would seem to be an opportune time for those who believe in the conventional double to crystallize their ideas upon the subject, and tell us what they consider the minimum doubling hand. At present there seems to be no standard. It is chiefly optimism and imagination. We all know the rules for correct bidding, and every player of ordinary intelligence can decide whether an original declaration is sound or not. We know the rules for unblocking, reverse defense, the sort of thing, but we have no rules for the double, which is to be generally recognized as official.

I am not an authority on the no-trump double, but I have seen a few examples. This is because I never overheard a no-trumper on my right, no matter how leading lights of the bridge world, but that is probably because they have not carefully noted and tabulated some five hundred deals to see how it works out, so that they learn nothing from experience.

The general rule, as first enunciated by the inventor of the no-trump double, Major C. L. P. is, "Double if you have a no-trumper yourself in preference to bidding two no-trumps. This is a pretty vague statement, but it is back on the question as to what constitutes a no-trumper. The prevailing idea seems to be an ace and two hopes. But let us take an unquestionable no-trumper held by second hand, such as the following hand, played at the Knickerbocker, I held B's cards.

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

PROBLEMS FOR SUN READERS.

Bridge problem No. 528 developed an interesting trump situation in the solution. Here is the distribution:

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 10 8 2

♠ 10 8 6
♥ 8 7